Scala Seminar Series

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Hosted by the disciplines of Landscape Architecture & Architecture, United Institute of Technology invites you to bring your lunch and attend a free public seminar on Thurs 8th August, 2019, 12.30-1.30pm

The Political Fault Lines in the Rebuilding of the Energy Infrastructure in Post-disaster Christchurch

by Prof. Hugh Byrd¹ and Assoc. Prof Steve Matthewman²

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The devastation of the city centre of Christchurch after the 2010 and 2011 earthquakes presented an opportunity to rebuild infrastructure in a coordinated and efficient manner to allow for a city that was energy efficient, low carbon, resilient and provided both energy security and justice. The research described in this paper records the processes taken to attempt to rebuild the energy infrastructure. The story is one of political decisions overriding appropriate technology and ultimately is a lesson in how not to handle the implementation of post-disaster energy infrastructure. Lack of clarity in decision making by central government and then not pursuing consultant's recommendations led to a scheme that was effectively abandoned in 2016 and described as 'a total failure'. The presentation records the critical events that occurred and explains why the proposed energy infrastructure was both politically and technologically inappropriate.

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Directions:

Building 1, Room 2075 (Lecture Theatre 1, level 2) Unitec Institute of Technology, Entry 1, Carrington Rd, Mt Albert. Parking adjacent to Entry 1, around Bdg 1 or behind Bd 12. Refer campus map www.unitec.ac.nz/aboutus/campuses-and-maps/maps/maps.cfm & room location map www.unitec.ac.nz/sites/default/files/public/documents/unitec_buildingone_floorplan.pdf

CPD:

NZILA CPD 0.5 points (category 3d). NZRAB CPD 10 pts (register to sign at seminar). ADNZ CPD 2 points. For further seminar information or to join mailing list contact swake@unitec.ac.nz

Work Experience points available for attending BLA students (10)